

E1 e) assaying the modification of at least one of the polypeptides by measuring the association of the binding partner polypeptide to the first polypeptide.

E2 8. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said association is measured by monitoring the molecular mass of the binding partner polypeptide in association with the first polypeptide.

E3 14. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the immobilised polypeptide is the polypeptide which is covalently modified.

Sub E4 17. (Amended) A polypeptide pair comprising a first polypeptide immobilised to a support, and a second polypeptide bound to the first polypeptide, wherein, the binding of the polypeptides is detectable, and covalent modification of at least one of the polypeptides results in modulation of the binding and is required for said association of said first polypeptide and said binding partner polypeptide.

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 and 20 pending. Claims 1, 8, 14, and 17 are amended herein.

Rejection of Claims 8 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph

Claims 8 and 14 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph for alleged lack of clarity.

Claim 8 is rejected because it contains the term "species" which lacks antecedent basis in claim 1 from which it depends. Claim 8 has been amended to delete the phrase "species".

Claim 14 is rejected for the recitation of the phrase "susceptible to covalent modification". Claim 14 has been amended to delete the phrase "susceptible to covalent modification" and now recites the phrase, "the polypeptide which is covalently modified".

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection of claims 1 and 8 as amended.